

5

CLAIMS

Having thus described the invention, we claim:

1. A system for configuring a spraying application system, comprising:
a user input device remotely located from a manufacturing site for the system;
10 a configuration program accessible by said user input device over a communication network;
said configuration program presenting component selection options based on input data from said user input device; said configuration program verifying component compatibility.
- 15 2. The system of claim 1 wherein said input device comprises a personal computer and said network comprises an Internet connection.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein said configuration program accesses a pricing and inventory database.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein said Internet connection comprises a
20 secure Web site.
5. The system of claim 1 wherein said spraying application system comprises a powder spray system including a spray gun, a nozzle and a powder pump.
6. A method for configuring a spraying application system, comprising the steps of:
25 a. connecting a remote user computer to a configuration software program using a communication network;
b. presenting a menu of component selections;
c. inputting spraying apparatus operating criteria; and
d. validating component selections to configure a valid spraying
30 apparatus system.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein said user computer also accesses a pricing and inventory program.
8. A system for monitoring a spraying application system, comprising:
a spraying application system;
35 a spraying application system monitoring program that is connectable to a communication network;
said monitoring program formatting operating data into signals accessible via said network; and

5 a remote access program that enables a remote computer to acquire said
operating data via said network.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein said network comprises the Internet.

10 10. The system of claim 8 comprising a secure database that contains
historical operating parameter information, said secure database being accessible by
said remote computer.

11. The system of claim 8 wherein said database and operating data are
accessible via secure Web pages on the Internet.

12. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said configuration program operates
from a server connected to the communication network.

15 13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said user input device accesses a
database of test data and configuration data to facilitate troubleshooting.